Established 1914

The New Light of Myanmar

Volume XVII, Number 42 | 5th Waxing of Nayon 1371 ME | Thursday, 28 May, 2009

Senior General Than Shwe congratulates German President

NAY PYI TAW, 27 May—Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr Horst Koehler, who was re-elected as President of the Federal Republic of Germany. *MNA*

Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to Azerbaijan

NAY PYI TAW, 28 May—Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which falls on 28 May 2009.—*MNA*

Prime Minister General Thein Sein felicitates Azerbaijan counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 28 May—General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Artur Rasizade, Prime Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which falls on 28 May 2009.—*MNA*

Four political objectives

* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
* National reconsolidation
* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

* Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

* Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
* Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
* Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Thayet District maintaining development momentum

Lt-Gen Tha Aye of Ministry of Defence views progress of Maday Dam Project.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 May—Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Magway Division Peace and Development Council Col Phone Maw Shwe and officials, met with servicemen and family members at Thayet Station Hall on 25 May morning and presented gifts to them.

At the hall of Thayet District, he met with departmental officials, social organization members and local people. Lt-Gen Tha Aye and Col Phone Maw Shwe presented gifts to the social organizations.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye inspected construction of the two-storey building at Thayet District Hospital and viewed the condition of Thayet-Natmeetauk-Kanma road.

At the construction site of Mindon Creek Bridge, he viewed the bridge and flow of water in Mindon Creek. On arrival at the construction site of Kanma-Thayet railroad section, he looked into placing of rail tracks along the railroad section.

He also visited Kanma People's Hospital and presented medicines to the medical superintendent. After inspecting Maday Creek Bridge, Lt-Gen Tha Aye viewed progress of Maday Dam Project.

At Tada Village of Mindon Township, he looked into thriving summer paddy plantations.

In the evening, he met departmental officials, social organization members and local people at Mindon Township PDC Office and presented gifts to social organizations and medicines to the hospital.

Later, Lt-Gen Tha Aye inspected the fire engine for Mindon Township.—*MNA*

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 28 May, 2009

Build more factories for development of import-substitute industries

The opening ceremony of a 50-ton pulp factory and an 80-ton packing paper factory of Myanma Paper and Chemical Industries under the Ministry of Industry-1 was held in Yedashe Township, Bago Division, on 26 May, and it was attended by Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

The factories were built near Yeni No-2 paper factory and they will be able to produce pulp for newsprint and packing paper with the effective use of natural resources, paving the way for development of the import-substitute industry. Building more factories like this will bring about regional development and create job opportunities for local people. The newly-opened factories will be able to produce 50 tons of pulp and 80 tons of packing paper per day. To keep a balanced ratio between expenditure and income, it is necessary to operate the machines to their full capacity, to train workers to become skilled in their respective work and to keep raw materials necessary for the factories always in stock.

With the increase in population, the demand for newspapers has become greater. For this, large amounts of pulp will have to be produced. In the same way, the increase in the number of cement plants will call for production of more packing paper. The factories were built not only to meet the domestic requirements but also to export the surplus.

To establish an industrial nation, the government is building more and more factories. This will contribute to import-substitute industries. Moreover, local workers will be able to operate modern machines and gain experience and knowledge about modern production techniques.

People's Desire

* **Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views**
* **Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation**
* **Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State**
* **Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy**

Culture Ministry organizes paper reading session

Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint delivers a speech at paper-reading session.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 May — The Ministry of Culture organized a paper-reading session at the hall of the ministry here this morning with an opening address by Vice-Chairman of Myanmar National Culture Committee Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint.

It was also attended by Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Historical Commission Dr Toe Hla and Secretary Dr Kyaw Win, member Dr Khin Maung Nyunt, Archaeologist U Myint Aung, the directors-general of the departments under the ministry, the rectors of National Culture and Fine Arts Universities (Yangon and Mandalay), resource persons and guests.

Director-General U Sann Win of Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library extended greetings and gave accounts on the session.

MHC Vice-Chairman Dr Toe Hla, Secretary Dr Kyaw Win, member Dr Khin Maung Nyunt and Archaeologist U Myint Aung acted as alternate chairmen of the session.

In the morning session, Director U Myo Nyunt and Deputy Director U Myat Swe of Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library (North) and Lecturer U Win Kyaing of Archaeological Technology Training School (Pyay) read out the papers.

In the afternoon session, Assistant Director Daw Aye Mi Sein of Beikthanoe Section of the department, Lecturer U Than Zaw Oo of Archaeological Technology Training School (Pyay), Assistant Director U Soe Soe Lin and Director U Wai Lwin of Bagan Section of the department read out the papers.

Then the resource persons answered the queries raised by those present.

The session came to an end with concluding remarks by the minister.

MNA

PTT lubricants introduced

YANGON, 27 May—PTT Public Co Ltd (Thailand) and Tunn Star Co Ltd, the Myanmar sole distributor, introduced PTT lubricants and hosted a dinner in honour of sale agents of upper Myanmar at the Oriental House Restaurant in Mandalay on 14 May evening.

Managing Director of Tunn Star Co Ltd U Aung Naing Tun and Executive Vice-President Mr Artasith Pothiapinyonvisuth of PTT Public Co., Ltd, Commercial & International Marketing, Oil Business Group, extended greetings.

In the lucky draw programme, Chairman of Tunn Star Co Ltd U Tun Lwin presented first prize (motorcycle) to U Maung Maung Kyin (Phakant), second prize (one-tical gold coin) to U Yu Kyaing (Thamadi) of Mandalay and third prize (half-tical gold coin) to U Tin Tun (Mya Kaythi) of Mandalay; and officials, 23 consolation prizes to the winners.

Tunn Star Co Ltd (Ph: 294701, 294702, 294704, 298103, 298124) solely distributes the products of PTT Public Co Ltd (Thailand): PTT Brand petrol, CNG, lubricants for diesel engines, hydraulic oil, gearoil, compressor oil, auto oil, grease, motorcycle engine oil and special lubricants for vessel engines in Myanmar—*MNA*

***Chairman of Tunn Star Co Ltd U Tun Lwin presents first prize (motorcycle) to a lucky draw winner.*—MNA**

Three blasts occur in Mawlamyine

NAY PYI TAW, 27 May — Three separate blasts occurred in Mawlamyine today and no one was injured in the blasts.

The first blast occurred in the drainage in front of a foodstuff shop in Shwedaung Ward about 9.30 am; the second on the traffic island in front of the Agricultural Office on Baho Road in Sitkekon Ward about 9.55 am and the third beside the fence near IOM-International Organization for Migration on the road to the school for girls in Mayangon Ward about 6.35 pm.

Insurgents have been plotting to explode bombs in major cities such as Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay to cause panic among the people and to do sabotage. The authorities have warned the people that the insurgent groups sent two terrorists to the country.

The authorities have also warned the people to be on the alert for suspicious terrorists in disguise who can enter the communities and to inform the authority concerned if they find supicious persons.

MNA

Three US troops killed in Afghan suicide blast

***Map locates Kapisa, Afghanistan, where three NATO troops were killed in a bomb blast.—*INTERNET**

PUL-E-SAYAD (Afghanistan), 27 May — Shortly before he rammed his vehicle into an American military convoy, the young bearded suicide bomber waved at Sayed Najibullah to move away. As Najibullah sped off a huge explosion ripped through a US armored vehicle, killing three American troops and three Afghan civilians.

But Najibullah lived to tell the story.

Tuesday's attack in the northern Kapisa Province, which is a stronghold of militants loyal to the Afghan warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar north of Kabul, follows warnings from American military officials that more suicide attacks and roadside bombings can be expected as thousands of new US troops join the fight this year.

Such attacks were up 25 percent in the first four months of 2009 compared with the same period last year.

The 22-year-old Najibullah was riding a motorbike on a tree-lined village road just outside the bazaar in Pul-e-Sayad when he saw the suicide attacker in a white Toyota Corolla speeding in the opposite direction.

"He was young, bearded man, wearing a white cap," Najibullah said. "He slowed down, looked at me, and motioned with his hand and told me to get away fast." The bomber did the same to the passengers of a rickshaw riding behind Najibullah.

At that moment Najibullah also heard the roaring engines of military vehicles coming from behind. And then the explosion happened. His bike shook violently but Najibullah did not fall off. Shocked, he stopped to see what had taken place.—*Internet*

***A medic checks on a wounded Afghan army soldier at a hospital in Jalalabad, on 15 May, 2009.—*INTERNET**

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,301

WASHINGTON, 27 May—As of Tuesday, 26 May, 2009, at least 4,301 members of the US military had died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003.

The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,446 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The British military has reported 179 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each.

Since the start of US military operations in Iraq, 31,285 US service members have been wounded in hostile action, according to the Defence Department's weekly tally.—*Internet*

Suspect beaten by Birmingham, Ala, police sues

BIRMINGHAM (Ala), 27 May—Five Birmingham police officers who were caught on video beating a suspect are being sued.

The suspect, Anthony Warren, filed a lawsuit on Tuesday that seeks an unspecified amount of money for damages and asks for changes in police officer training. The chief of police and the city are also named in the lawsuit.

The video shows police pursuing Warren's van on 23 January, 2008. An officer is hurt as the van swerves through traffic.

Later, the van overturns on a ramp and ejects Warren. The video then shows officers beating the motionless Warren with their fists, feet and a billy club.

The five officers have been fired and police chief AC Roper ordered an internal investigation.

The video surfaced recently as prosecutors were preparing to try Warren.—*Internet*

***A colleague helps Iraqi soldier Anwar Sabih after he was wounded in a road side blast that hit their patrol in Kirkuk, 290 kilometres (180 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraq, on 26 May, 2009.—*INTERNET**

US military deaths in Afghanistan region at 615

WASHINGTON, 27 May — As of Tuesday, 26 May, 2009, at least 615 members of the US military had died in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan as a result of the US invasion of Afghanistan in late 2001, according to the Defence Department. The department last updated its figures on Tuesday at 10 am EDT.

Of those, the military reports 453 were killed by hostile action.

Outside the Afghan region, the Defence Department reports 67 more members of the US military died in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Of those, three were the result of hostile action. The military lists these other locations as Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba; Djibouti; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Jordan; Kenya; Kyrgyzstan; Philippines; Seychelles; Sudan; Tajikistan; Turkey; and Yemen.

There were also four CIA officer deaths and one military civilian death.—*Internet*

Roadside bomb kills Afghan soldier in east Afghanistan

KABUL, 27 May — A soldier of Afghan army was killed as a roadside bomb struck a military vehicle in Khost Province east of Afghanistan on Tuesday, a press release of Defence Ministry said.

"Militants detonated a mine by remote control against a patrol team of soldiers killing one," the press release added.

Taleban militants often use roadside bombings and suicide attacks against Afghan and the US-led Coalition forces in Afghanistan.

Similar attack early in the day claimed three soldiers of NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Kapisa Province, 80 km north of capital city Kabul. —*Internet*

13 militants killed near Afghan capital

KABUL, 27 May — Afghan National Army (ANA) backed by the US-led Coalition forces have killed 13 militants in an ongoing operation in Logar Province, some 60 km south of the Afghan capital Kabul, said a Coalition statement received here on Wednesday.

"The Afghan-led force was clearing a compound Tuesday to disrupt enemy activities when they observed several small groups of armed men moving toward them. The combined force called in a precision air strike, which killed four militants," it said.

While the joint troops received small arms and heavy machine-gun fire from a wooded area, they called in another precision air strike, which killed an additional nine militants, it added. "No Afghan Commandos, coalition forces or civilian casualties have been reported as a result of the operation."—*Internet*

*Girls perform the tea-serving proceeding at the opening ceremony of the Enjoying Fragrant Tea with Health in Guiyang, southwest China's Guizhou Province, on 26 May, 2009. —*XINHUA

Financial crisis affects Russia in "moderately negative" way

MOSCOW, 27 May—The ongoing global financial crisis is developing in a "moderately negative" way in Russia, said Russian President Dmitry Medvedev on Tuesday.

"In my opinion, nothing super-dramatic has happened despite the difficult period we are living through," the *Itar-Tass* news agency quoted Medvedev as saying during a meeting with businessmen.

He said, "Government agencies and business should try to preserve this state of affairs and not to create additional problems."

Medvedev also warned that high-ranking officials should not make unfounded forecasts about the possible outcome of the crisis.

"Whenever some of my colleagues, including those in government, say that the crisis in Russia will last for another 50 years, that is impermissible.

They should find another job if they think so," he said.

Russia's gross domestic product (GDP) contracted by 9.5 percent year-on-year in the first quarter of 2009, according to official statistics.

Andrei Klepach, a deputy economic development minister, said in April that Russia's GDP may tumble 8.7 percent to 10 percent in the second quarter of this year, while the whole year may see a 6 percent drop of the GDP.

The International Monetary Fund forecast in April that Russian economy will plunge 6 percent in 2009 but grow 0.5 percent in 2010.

Internet

Canada forecasts deficit will top $50 billion

OTTAWA, 27 May—Canada will run its biggest ever deficit this year of more than $50 billion because of the deep economic recession, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said on Tuesday.

Flaherty raised his estimate from the $33.7 billion shortfall he forecast in January's budget. The deficit will be the country's first after more than a decade of budget surpluses.

"We are going through a deeper economic slowdown than anticipated," Flaherty said.

He blamed lower tax revenues and higher jobless benefits being paid out by Ottawa as "to be expected" in the downturn. But a bailout of General Motors and Chrysler will put even more pressure on the government's books.

"We are also seeing the substantial auto payments that are going to be required. As a result of all of that, we will run a substantial short-term deficit this year which I would estimate at more than $50 billion," he told reporters.

Internet

Oil hovers above $62 on optimism about economy

PERTH, 27 May—Oil hovered little changed near a six-month high above $62 a barrel on Wednesday, as a jump in US consumer confidence and signs of modest recovery in Japanese exports buoyed hopes that oil demand would rebound as the global economy recovers.

Oil gained over 1 percent on Tuesday, bolstered by the US data and comments from OPEC kingpin Saudi Arabia that prices may continue to rise.

US crude oil for July delivery edged down 6 cents to $62.39 a barrel by 0455 GMT (12:55 am EDT) on Wednesday, after having hit a fresh six-month high of $62.95 in early trade. The contract settled at $62.45 a barrel on Tuesday — its highest close since 5 November.

London Brent crude fell 4 cents to $61.20. "Oil is being supported by the US consumer confidence data," said David Moore, a commodities analyst at the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

The US and Japanese data boosted hopes the world is emerging from its worst financial crisis in decades, reigniting a rally in stocks and other riskier assets.Even though a recovery appears fragile, Asian shares rose on Wednesday to their highest level in more than seven months amid improving investor confidence.—*Internet*

Cuba sounds summer energy alarm, plans blackouts

HAVANA, 27 May—Cubans are in for an especially hot summer under an energy saving plan that could shut off air conditioners at work and require Saturday-morning blackouts at home, according to an unpublished government directive obtained by *The Associated Press.*

The plan, signed by new Economics Minister Marino Murillo and circulating on Tuesday among government offices and state companies, also calls for large-scale vacations for government workers but doesn't say if they will be paid.

The measures are necessary, it says, to conserve petroleum used to generate electricity during the Caribbean nation's sweltering summer months.

Residential electrical use can often triple in the summer because of fans and air conditioners.

Internet

IBM earmarks $3 billion for Europe and Asia stimulus

LONDON, 27 May—IBM has earmarked $3 billion to finance so-called smart infrastructure projects in Europe and Asia likely to receive government stimulus support.

The move, announced on Wednesday, follows a similar announcement of $2 billion the computer consulting and technology company is making available in the United States as it seeks to win business for which government funds may not immediately be forthcoming.

IBM Global Financing had $36 billion tied up in projects as of end-2008, in the form of measures like project and commercial financing and asset leasing in the public and private sectors.

Its most recent push comes as other infrastructure providers such as telecommunications equipment suppliers Ericsson and ZTE are increasingly providing vendor financing for cash-strapped customers amid global recession.

IBM is now offering low interest rates, deferred payments and structured credit for projects such as the development of congestion-charge schemes in inner urban areas, or health-information technology, as well as for smaller ventures.

Internet

NZ zookeeper mauled to death by rare white tiger

WELLINGTON, 27 May—An animal keeper was mauled to death Wednesday by a rare white tiger at a wildlife park in New Zealand while visitors watched in horror, police said.

The tiger was killed because it wouldn't release the keeper's body.

The keeper was attacked after he and a colleague entered the cage at Zion Wildlife Park on New Zealand's North Island to clean it, police spokeswoman Sarah Kennett said.

"Despite the best efforts of the second keeper and a rapid response from other wildlife park staff, the tiger would not let the park worker go," Kennett said in a statement.

The tiger was killed to remove the body, police inspector Paul Dimmery told National Radio.

The man died at the scene before help could reach him, with serious injuries to his abdomen and lower legs.

There was "nothing to indicate why it attacked — but the fact is they're wild animals," Dimmery added. Park spokeswoman Sarah Reed said staff were "devastated."

Internet

*Actors perform traditional dance during the opening ceremony of a culture festival in Jiaxing, east China's Zhejiang Province, on 26 May, 2009, to celebrate the Chinese traditional Duanwu Festival which falls, on 28 May this year.—*XINHUA

Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping, also member of the Standing Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee Political Bureau and a member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee, visit an industrial area to learn about employment situation in Taiyuan, during an inspection tour in north China's Shanxi Province, on 26 May, 2009.—XINHUA

Chinese Vice President urges companies to enhance competence to ensure growth

TAIYUAN, 27 May—Chinese companies should continue to improve their competence to ensure economic growth amid the global downturn, Vice President Xi Jinping has urged.

Xi made the remarks during an inspection tour to north China's Shanxi Province, an old industrial base that is also resource-rich, from Sunday to Tuesday.

To sharpen their competitive edge is companies' key mission to ensure national economic growth, said Xi.

Xi urged companies to use new technology to conserve energy. He also stressed work safety, saying people's lives are the most precious of all.

He called on companies to create more jobs for the disabled and broaden their employment "to the utmost." —*Xinhua*

Five magnitude earthquake shakes Peru

LIMA, 27 May—An earthquake of 5 magnitude on the Richter scale shook on Tuesday early morning Lima and other localities in the south of Peru without report of victims and damages.

The epicenter was in the sea at 50 kilometres of depth, and 72 kilometres southwest to the coast of Ica department, the Geophysics Institute said in a communique.

The earthquake was felt in Lima and the localities of Chincha, Pisco, Ica and Palpa.

This is the eighth earthquake of more than four magnitude that shakes Lima in this month.

On August 2007, an earthquake of 8.1 magnitude killed 596 people, left thousands of homeless and destroyed 70,000 houses in the department of Ica, Huancavelica and Ayacucho.

Xinhua

German insurance Co to open more branches in China

JINAN, 27 May—The Allianz Group, a global insurance company, plans to expand business in China despite the current global financial downturn.

The company held an inauguration ceremony for its eighth Chinese branch in Jinan of Shandong Province on Wednesday.

The area's life insurance market was ranked the country's fourth largest with a market value of 45.28 billion yuan (6.66 billion US dollars) in 2008, a 43.3 percent growth over the previous year, statistics show.

Allianz will set up a ninth branch in Wuhan, the provincial capital of Hubei later this year. Wilfred John Blackburn, CEO of Allianz China Life Insurance Co, Ltd, said the group's strong financial strength allowed it to seek market expansion while most of its counterparts did not have the resources to pick up investment speed.

Currently, foreign insurance companies have a four to six percent market share of the Chinese insurance industry which is dominated by China Life, Pingan Insurance Group and China Pacific Insurance Group.—*Xinhua*

Air Pacific eyes Asia, Europe skies

SUVA, 27 May—Fiji and China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) are expected to sign an agreement this year that would open up more routes for local airline Air Pacific in Asia and Europe, Fiji media reported on Wednesday.

Last week, the Fiji cabinet had given the green light to Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama and the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Civil Aviation to sign the Fiji-Hong Kong special administration region (SAR) air services agreement (ASA).

Air Pacific chief executive and managing director John Campbell on Wednesday welcomed the announcement, saying the locally-owned airline had encouraged the government to initiate the air services agreement with Hong Kong in order to materialize its plans to commence flights between Fiji and Hong Kong.

"The Air Services Agreement is, in effect, the licensing of the route for operations and ASAs are required between Fiji and any country that Air Pacific or the other countries airlines provide flight operations," the Fiji live website on Wednesday quoted Campbell as saying.

In his submission to Cabinet last week, acting Prime Minister Ratu Epeli Ganilau said the ASA was envisaged to lead to meaningful bilateral relationships between Fiji and Hong Kong in areas of trade, tourism and increased interaction.

Xinhua

Ten die as militants shell presidential residence in Mogadishu

MOGADISHU, 27 May—Ten people were killed and several others were wounded after mortar shells fired by militant fighters missed the Presidential Place in Mogadishu, officials and witnesses said.

Somali military spokesman Farhan Mahad said none of the shells landed in the Presidential Place, but hit areas far from the Somali President's residence where residents said seven people were killed.

"The shells hit a small restaurant behind Villa Somalia (the Presidential Palace) and seven people having dinner died and many others were wounded," Mohamed Ahmed, a resident, told on *Xinhua*.

Ambulance services in Mogadishu confirmed the death toll adding that three other people wounded in the Wardigley district also died on arrival at the hospital.

Somali government forces have been battling militant fighters from the hardline Islamist Al-Shabaab movement and Hezbul Islam (Islamic Party) who have vowed to topple Somali government. —*Xinhua*

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Russia pledges continued support to Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, 27 May—Russia has pledged to continue to assist Sri Lanka for the restoration of peace and reconstruction in the country after the defeat of Tamil Tiger rebels, the Sri Lankan government said on Tuesday. The presidential office said in a statement that Russian President Dmitriy Medvedev told Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapakse on Tuesday in a telephone conversation that Russia considered Sri Lanka an old friend and ally, and looked forward to continuing the warm relations between the two countries.

He assured that Russia will give all assistance to Sri Lanka for the restoration of peace, reconstruction, and for necessary and expeditious relief to the large number of internally displaced persons, according to the statement.

Rajapakse thanked the Russian president for the considerable assistance given to Sri Lanka, especially in the UN Security Council and other UN organizations at the last stage of civil war.

The Sri Lankan president also conveyed his thanks to Russian Prime Minister Vladmir Putin, who had also been very helpful to Sri Lanka in the battle against the rebels, during his term as the president, said the statement. —*Xinhua*

Guests lay a foundation for the space pavilion for the 2010 Shanghai World Expo during a ceremony in Puxi of Shanghai, east China, on 26 May, 2009.
XINHUA

Cyclone Aila toll up to 191 in India, Bangladesh

CALCUTTA, 27 May— The death toll from Cyclone Aila in eastern India and Bangladesh rose to at least 191 on Wednesday, officials said, while heavy rains after the storm caused deadly mudslides and slowed rescue efforts.

The toll was expected to rise in both countries as rescue workers reached cut-off areas. The cyclone destroyed thousands of homes and stranded tens of thousands of people in flooded villages before it began to ease on Tuesday.

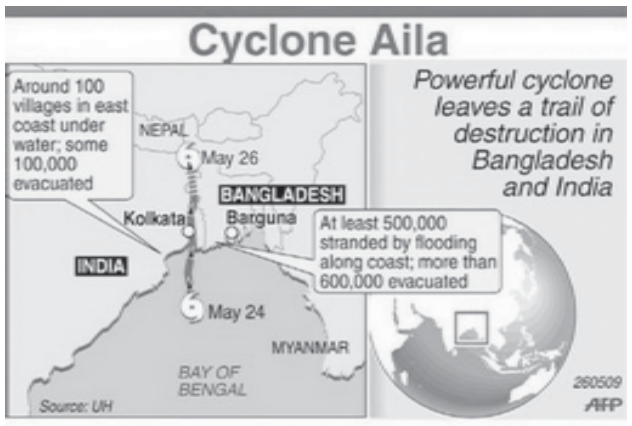
But mudslides in India's famed Darjeeling tea district killed at least 20 people overnight, said P Zimba, a local government official.

The official death toll in India stood at 68 by Wednesday, said Ashok Mohan Chakraborty, a senior official in worst-hit West Bengal state.

Bangladesh's Food and Disaster Management Ministry said the toll there was 100 after more bodies were found. Most victims drowned or were washed away when storm surges hit coastal areas.

Soldiers have been deployed to take food, water and medicine to tens of thousands of people stranded in flooded villages, Bangladeshi Minister Abdur Razzak told reporters on Wednesday.

Chakraborty said at least 50 people had been rescued from rooftops in the Sundarbans, a tangle of mangrove forests that is home to one of the world's largest tiger populations.—*Internet*



Graphic showing the path of Cyclone Aila. Bangladesh and India launched major relief operations on Tuesday after a cyclone tore into the northern coast of the Bay of Bengal, killing at least 126 people and leaving hundreds of thousands homeless.

INTERNET

Russia signs uranium contracts with US companies

MOSCOW, 27 May— Russia's uranium export company signed a groundbreaking $1 billion package of contracts Tuesday to supply three US utilities with enriched fuel for nuclear power plants, Russian atomic industry officials said.

State-run Tekhsnabexport, or Tenex, will supply US markets with nuclear fuel enriched from raw uranium for the first time, Tekhsnabexport marketing executive Vadim Mikerin told *The Associated Press.*

Tenex signed contracts to provide enriched uranium fuel to San Francisco, California-based Pacific Gas & Electric Company; St Louis, Missouri-based AmerenUE; and Dallas, Texas-based Luminant, said Sergei Novikov, spokesman for the state nuclear agency Rosatom.

The companies are part of a group called Fuelco, he said.

Tenex will supply fuel to the US utilities from 2014 through 2020 under the contracts, which provide the option for renewal, Novikov told the *AP*. He said the deals will help each company supply electricity to 5 million households.—*Internet*

Brazil jet from Miami hits turbulence, injuring 21

RIO DE JANEIRO, 27 May— A Brazilian jet liner traveling from Miami ran into rough turbulence, injuring 21 people on board.

Passengers said the plane twice went into a sharp dive on Monday night, slamming people into the ceiling of the cabin. Three people suffered broken bones.

TAM flight 8095 landed safely in Sao Paulo about 30 minutes later, the airline said on Tuesday.

Three people remained hospitalized.

TAM Linhas Aereas SA is Brazil's biggest airline.

Internet

Dialogue makes good progress despite large challenges

GAZA, 27 May— Deposed Prime Minister of Hamas-led government in the Palestinian Gaza Strip Ismail Haneya said on Tuesday evening that the inter-Palestinian dialogue made good progress but was burdened with external intervention.

Haneya told reporters at a news conference as he received an international solidarity delegation at his Gaza office that "the current political challenges, which surround the Palestinian people, are larger than our internal differences."

Haneya, who is also a senior Hamas leader, is not recognized by the international community as the prime minister of the Palestinian government. President Mahmoud Abbas deposed him after Hamas took control of Gaza in June 2007.

Abbas designated Salam Fayyad to form a caretaker government, and then after Fayyad resigned in late March, Fayyad formed a larger government that was sworn in last week. —*Internet*

NEWS ALBUM

Dutch burglar to police: Help, I'm trapped

A burglar had to call Dutch police to free him after finding himself trapped in an attempt to break into a school in Amsterdam, police said.

The 26-year-old "got into the school through the roof and a small window", police spokesman Ebe van der Land told *AFP*.

"He was unable to leave the same way and found himself trapped in an inner court, his exit blocked by a high gate.

"He said he did not have the strength left to scale the gate, and so called the police."

Officers freed the man before locking him up.

Disney character Minnie Mouse, the voice of Mickey Mouse & Disney Legend Honoree Wayne Allwine, his wife Russi Taylor, who is the voice of Minnie Mouse, and Mickey Mouse, seen in 2008.

Kids want to hear more bedtime stories

Almost two-thirds of children want their parents to spend more time reading to them before bed, and most prefer Mum's storytelling to Dad's, researchers said on Friday.

They conducted a study that showed younger children aged 3-4 were most hungry for more stories, with over three-quarters saying they wished their parents read to them more often.

More than half of all children aged 3-8 said story time was their favourite pastime with their parents.

2-week-old lion cub Nala bites the arm of a sofa, with Nyiregyhaza Zoo keeper Aniko Herlicska, in the background, in Ibrany, Hungary, on 22 May, 2009. Nala is currently living with her keeper after having an operation at Nyiregyhaza Zoo, after her mother Kyara broke her right thigh bone.

Performers show their acrobatic skill of pouring water with a long spout into a tea cup at the opening ceremony of the Enjoying Fragrant Tea with Health in Guiyang, southwest China's Guizhou Province, on 26 May, 2009.

Woman, 70, skydives after heart transplant

A 70-year-old Missouri woman who received a heart transplant in 2001 said she lived a lifelong dream by skydiving in Vandalia, Ill.

Judy Kaufman of Chesterfield said she jumped out of a plane at 11,000 feet on Sunday at the Archway Skydiving Centre with her husband, two sons and grandsons looking on from the ground, the St Louis Post-Dispatch reported on Monday.

"It was the most exhilarating thing I've ever done," Kaufman said after her tandem jump.

ASU new species list has longest insect

A Malaysian insect, at 22 inches the longest insect in the world, is among the top 10 species found in 2008, Arizona State University says.

The college's International Institute for Species Exploration said the large insect was picked by an international committee of scientists to make the annual list, along with the world's smallest snake, The Arizona Republic said.

Trial against US citizen Mr John William Yettaw, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Daw Khin Khin Win and Ma Win Ma Ma heard for eighth day

NAY PYI TAW, 27 May—Yangon North District Court heard the trial against US citizen Mr John William Yettaw, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Daw Khin Khin Win and Ma Win Ma Ma for the eighth day at 10 am today to continue its criminal case 47/2009. The court interrogated Daw Khin Khin Win first.

Daw Khin Khin Win as a defendant of her own volition replied to the questions. Her answers to the questions of the court are as follows: —

Q: How long have you been living with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi who is before the court at her house?
A: For six years.
Q: Do you know restriction order, prohibition order and extended prohibition order are put on her and the house?
A: I don't know that. What I know is that she is prohibited from going outside the house.
Q: Are you also prohibited from going outside the house like her?
A: No, I am not. I was told that I could go out if I wanted to.
Q: How many times have you gone out of your own accord in the six years?
A: I have never done so. I let her know to show my due respect to her if I have to go outside.
Q: Did you notice any signal before Mr John William Yettaw entered the house in the night of 30th November 2008?
A: I saw him from inside the house. At that time it was dark, so I could not identify who was that.
Q: What items did he leave in the house?
A: I did not know what he left at that time. Some days later, I found them while I was doing the cleaning.
Q: At what time did Mr John William Yettaw arrive at the house on 3rd May?
A: I heard someone moaning at about half past three in the morning on 4th May.
Q: How did Mr John William Yettaw communicate to enter the house?
A: I found a man lying outside the house. So, I let her know. The next morning, he was allowed to enter and stay in the house.
Q: How many days did he stay in the house?
A: He left the house before the midnight of 5th May.
Q: Which way did he take to leave the house?
A: I saw him going to the lake, but I did not know which way he took.
Q: How did you provide accommodation, serve meals, and communicate with him?
A: I can't speak English, nor did I need to speak to him. I served him food when she asked me. We arranged accommodation for him.
Q: Did Mr John William Yettaw give Daw Aung San Suu Kyi his daughter's letters through you?
A: No.
Q: How did he give her the letters, then?
A: I don't know.
Q: What sorts of things did Mr John William Yettaw leave in the house?
A: They are not the things he left but the ones he missed to take and they were handed over to the police.
Q: Did Mr John William Yettaw say that he would come again?
A: I don't know.
Q: Is it possible for him to get into the house without opening the door?
A: No, it isn't. He can get into the house only if the door was opened.
Q: Is it true that you are a retired Junior Assistant Teacher?
A: No, I am not. I am a retried Primary Assistant Teacher.
Q: Is it true that you yourself have to liaise with the officials concerned regarding the health conditions and social affairs of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi?
A : Yes, it is.
Q : Do you think that Mr John William Yettaw came for the second time because he had already made contact during his first visit?
A : When he came for the first time, I didn't know who Mr John William Yettaw was. Only when he came for the second time did I know who he was.

Then, Ma Win Ma Ma (a) Ange Lay said that she would like to be examined as a defendant and she answered the questions asked by the court as follows.

Q : Do you always live with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi who is before the court at her house?
A : For four years.
Q : Is it true that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and her house have been under restriction order, prohibition order and continued prohibition order?
A : Not that I know of.
Q : How often have you ever left the house of your own volition during your stay there?
A : Never.
Q : What signals did Mr John William Yettaw give when he came to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's house on the night of 30 November, 2008?
A : I have no idea.
Q : What items did he leave at the house where you were living?
A : I don't know.
Q : At what time did Mr John William Yettaw arrive at the house you were living on the night of 3 May?
A : I heard someone moaning early in the morning but I didn't go out. Only when it was light did Mr John William Yettaw come into the house.
Q : Why did you let him come in?
A : I don't know.
Q : How long did he stay at the house?
A : He left the house at about midnight on 5 May.
Q : Which route did he take?
A : He went in the direction of the lake but I didn't know which route he took.
Q : How did you arrange with the food and accommodation for Mr John William Yettaw?
A : We fed him when it was time for meals. But I don't know about the accommodation because it was the matter my elders took care of.
Q : Did you give Daw Aung San Suu Kyi the letters which Mr John William Yettaw said were his daughter's?
A : Not that I know of. I took them out and gave them to the police when they came.
Q : What were the things Mr John William Yettaw left at your house?
A : It was not that he left the things, but he missed to take them back.
Q : Did Mr John William Yettaw tell Daw Aung San Suu Kyi that he would be coming again?
A : Not that I know of.
Q : Would it be possible to come into the house unless you opened the door?
A : It would be possible only if the door was opened.
Q : Did you have to liaise with the officials concerned regarding the health conditions and social affairs of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi?
A : No, I didn't.
Q : If it is said that Mr John William Yettaw came for the second time because he had already made contact during his first visit -
A : I didn't know about this.
Q: Did Mr John William Yettaw leave his clothes and personal items at the house of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi for a visit next time?
A: I don't know it.
Q: Did you prohibit the acts of Mr John William Yettaw for taking photos and making recording in the house?
A: I don't know it.
Q: Could Daw Aung San Suu Kyi accommodate a foreigner at the house if she did not have the help of you and your mother Daw Khin Khin Win?
A: I don't know it.
Q: Did you give accommodation and food to Mr John William Yettaw who arrived at the house?
A: We did it as asked by Aunty Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

After that, Mr John William Yettaw was examined. After taking oath at the court, Mr John William Yettaw was examined as the witness. He said that he had visited Yangon twice. He said that the first visit was on 7 November 2008. He continued to say that he arrived at the residence of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi for the first time on 30 November 2008 and it was at about 11 pm. He said that he went into the residence compound without entering the house and left the book entitled "Book of Mormon" at the back of the house. He added that on the first entry, he walked along the bund of Inya Lake through the drain. After that, he said that he stepped over the fence of the residence. On 2 May, he arrived in Yangon again, he said. At 4 am on 3 May, he entered the residence compound of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, he said. He lied down near the back door of the house due to cramp in both legs and tiredness. He entered the residence easily as the back door was not locked. He stayed at the residence from the night of 3 May and left there about mid-night of 5 May. Though he took documentary photos and shot video during his stay in the residence, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi did not notice it at all. Neither Daw Khin Khin Win nor Ma Win Ma Ma noticed it. His belongings were left at the residence as he forgot to bring them when he left there in the darkness. He was in battle nearly two years during the war in Vietnam and he was a member of the US Army. During his stay in the residence of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, he was provided with a helping of fried rice and bottles of purified water.

When cross-examined by the district law officer, he said he had been to Yangon for two times and he left Bangkok for Yangon by flight. He also entered Myanmar through Maesot and Maesai and visited Maetaw Clinic in Maesot for ten times. During the visit, he met with Bo Kyi of Assistance Association for Political Prisoners-AAPP. He signed and agreed that he would follow the disciplines in the visa during the visit to Myanmar.

The proceedings are adjourned until 10 am on 28 May.

MNA

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing on inspection tour of Namtu, Manton, Kyaukme

NAY PYI TAW, 27 May—Accompanied by Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut and officials, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence met with servicemen and family members at Namtu Station Hall yesterday.

At the briefing hall of No. 1 Mining Enterprise, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing viewed blocks of sample ores. At Namtu Smelting Plant, he looked into production process.

On arrival at Namtu Hospital, he presented foodstuff and cash assistance to the patients and medicines to the medical superintendent. At the town hall in Namtu, he attended to the needs after hearing the reports of officials.

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and party visited Manton Hospital and medicines to the medical superintendent.

This morning, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing met local national races and servicemen and families at Manton Station Hall separately.

At Manton Township PDC office, he met with departmental officials, social organization members and local people.

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing and party viewed enrolment of students at Manton Basic Education High School and inspected buildings of the school.

Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of Ministry of Defence inspects school enrollment at BEHS in Manton.—MNA

At Kyaukme District Hospital, they visited the operation theatre and presented medicines to the medical superintendent.

While in Kyaukme, he met with local people and heard progress of the township presented by officials.

MNA

Minister U Soe Tha signs Book of Condolence opened at the Embassy of the Republic of Korea for the passing away of Mr Roh Moo-hyun, Former President of the Republic of Korea.—MNA

NPED Minister signs Book of Condolence

YANGON, 27 May — Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha signed the Book of Condolence opened at the Embassy of the Republic of Korea, No 97, University Avenue, Bahan Township, here, at 11 am, for the passing away of Mr. Roh Moo-hyun, Former President of the Republic of Korea on 23 May 2009.—*MNA*

FM sends felicitations to Azerbaijan counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 28 May—U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Elmar Mammadyarov, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which falls on 28 May 2009.—*MNA*

PBANRDA Minister inspects construction of district-to-district road No.2

NAY PYI TAW, 27 May— Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt gave instructions on adequate supply of drinking water and maintenance of waterworks in meeting with officials at the office of Kyaukse Township Development Affairs Committee yesterday.

Next, the minister inspected development of Kyaukse, visited Zawgyi Waterworks Nos (1) and (2) and looked into sale of goods at the market.

At the briefing hall of construction of district-to-district road No.2 in the township, the minister heard reports and called for timely completion of roadworks meeting set standards.

Then he looked into tarmacking of district-to-district road No.2 and gave necessary instructions.

After hearing reports on supply of drinking water in Meiktila presented by offcials at the office of Meiktila Township DAC, the minister gave necessary instructions.

Next, the minister met with executive officers and engineers who are taking part in construction of district-to-district road No.2 and gave necessary instructions.

MNA

Stimulant tablets seized in Namhsan Tsp of Shan State (South), Mahaaungmye Tsp of Mandalay Div

NAY PYI TAW, 27 May—Authorities of Taunggyi Special Anti-Drug Squad in Shan State (South) searched the house of Daw Nan Kham at Ward 1 in Namhsan Township at about 1.15 pm on 23 May.

They found Daw Nan Kham and her daughter Daw Win Tin and seized 250 WY brand pink colour stimulant tablets. Daw Nan Kham and Daw Win Tin are brought to trial, and measures are being taken to expose their accomplices.

Similarly, authorities of Mandalay Anti-Drug Squad (South) of Mandalay Division searched the house rented by Hwan Yu Pan (a) Fan Yu Pan at No 108 at the corner of 60th Street and 41stx 42nd streets, Mahamyaing Ward 2, Mahaaungmye Township, at about 9 pm on 23 May.

They found Hwan Yu Pan (a) Fan Yu Pan, and Yan Ah Yin (a) Thein Oo and seized 200 WY brand pink colour stimulant tablets under the mattress in the bedroom. Measures are being taken against Hwan Yu Pan and Yan Ah Yin and investigation is also under way to expose the culprits at large.—*MNA*

Minister Col Thein Nyunt inspects paving of tarred road near Milepost No. 38/2 in Kyaukse Township.— PBANRDA

Yuzana Integrated Farm Project geared up for earning foreign exchange through cultivation of tapioca

Article: Tin Htwe (MNA); Photos: Kyaw Swe Moe (IPRD)

(from page 16)

In implementing the project, the management group, and the supply and transport group were formed to undertake land preparations, remove roots and branches of trees with the use of heavy machinery and construct the buildings.

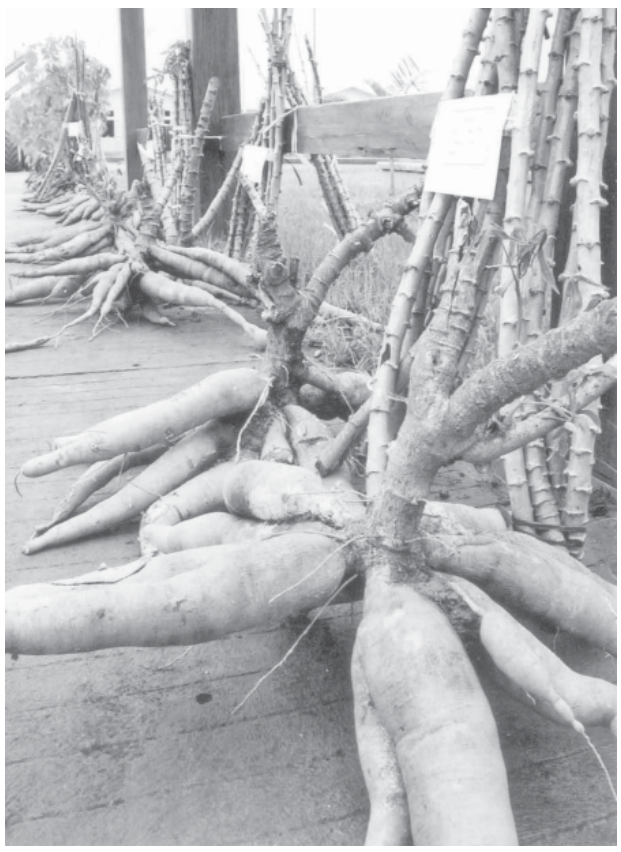
The project is being implemented with the strengths of 79 management staff, 67 agriculture workers, 245 tractor workers, 130 heavy machinery technicians, 3000 agriculture employees and 1500 construction workers, totalling 5021.

The project uses 51 bulldozers, 52 excavators, eight farmer excavators, two wheel loaders, four rollers, two motor graters, 192 tractors (John Deere), 45 dumper trucks and eight 10-wheel trucks.

The project tasks include construction of workers' houses, the hospital, the training school, the market, a pagoda, a monastery and a lake, the recreation centre, the research camp, the workshop, roads and bridges, factories and warehouses. Oil palm plantations of Yuzana Co Ltd are thriving in Taninthayi Division. It is sure that the Yuzana Integrated Farming Project will achieve success in coming years.

Mainly, tapioca plantations are thriving in the project area. Tubers of tapioca plants are larger than normal ones. I had never seen the larger sizes of tapioca tubers before my visit to the project site.

It is known to all that the tubers of tapioca plants are used in manufacturing of seasonal powder. The project is growing tapioca plants to produce tapioca starch powder to be exported to China market, in addition to making seasonal powder.



Larger sized tapioca tubers produced from tapioca plantations of Yuzana Integrated Farm Project.

In the People's Republic of China, tapioca starch powder is used in making smooth surface of special paper. Therefore, the orders have been placed for buying tapioca starch powder of the Yuzana Integrated Farming Project.

Director U Sonny of Yuzana Co said, "The Chinese businessmen were pleased with the on-going integrated farming project. They have placed an order for purchase of tapioca tubers from us. We are building Tapioca Starch Powder Factory with the aim of selling its product to China. If it is possible, the Chinese businessmen also want to buy tapioca tubers. We will be producing starch power and sell it to them. Therefore, we can get more benefits and generate jobs for the local people. At present, our investment is inadequate because it is a major project. The income earned from palm oil is being spent on implementation of the project. When the starch factory is complete, we can earn the income."

The species of tapioca being grown in the project is KU-50 from Thailand. The one-year tuber of tapioca plants can be dug out. The project will dig tapioca tubers of two years old to be able to produce larger sized tubers.

Tractors and combine harvesters manufactured by John Deere Co of China seen at Yuzana Integrated Farm Project.

Female workers producing nine-inch tapioca grafts.

At present, the seed farm of the project is producing tapioca seeds. At the farm, female workers cut the nine-inch tapioca grafts. The grafts are to be sterilized with the use of pesticide and sent to the fields by car.

While implementing the project, Yuzana Co Ltd is undertaking the maintenance of Myitkyina-Namti-Tanai road section under the name of Ledo Highway Co Ltd for ensuring better transport in the region.

As a journalist, I had many opportunities to frequently observe the integrated farms while making short and long trips the length and breadth of the nation. I had never seen any larger integrated farms than this one being undertaken with the use of heavy machinery in full swing. Actually, Yuzana Integrated Farm Project in Kachin State is playing an important role in building the modern and developed nation.

*****

Translation: TTA

Kyemon: 19-5-2009

Land preparations being made with the use of heavy machinery at Yuzana Integrated Farm Project.

Nation now on path of development

Commander, Information Minister attend opening of new library building in Ohnchaw Village of Patheingyi Tsp, Mandalay Div

NAY PYI TAW, 27 May—Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe and Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attended the opening ceremony of new building of Alinyaung Library in Ohnchaw Village of Patheingyi Township on 25 May.

Head of Mandalay Division Information and Public Relations Department U Kyaw Than Tun, Chairman of Patheingyi Township PDC U Tun Lin and Chairman of the Library Committee U Than Tun formally opened the new building.

The commander and the minister visited the library and gave instructions on durability of the library.

The commander and the minister met departmental officials, social organization members and over 13,000 local people from 50 villages of 21 village-tracts.

Speaking on the occasion, the commander said that as today is the knowledge age, technology is being applied in health, education, production and agriculture sectors. He stressed the need for the local people to be equipped with technological knowledge so as to apply it in building a peaceful, modern and developed nation. The libraries will fulfill this requirement, he said. In Mandalay Division, a total of 5,545 villages have a library each, he added. The commander urged the local people, social organization members, wellwishers and departmental personnel to maintain the self-reliant village libraries for their durability as a national duty.

Commander Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe and Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan cordially meet with division/district/township-level departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people from 50 villages of 21 village-tracts in Ohnchaw Village of Patheingyi Township.—MNA

Commander Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe and Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan attend opening ceremony of Alinyaung Library in Ohnchaw Village of Patheingyi Township.—MNA

In his address, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said that nowadays, peace and stability has been restored throughout the nation and almost all the infrastructures have been built in the country. In other words, he said, the nation is now on the path of development. The people are to join hands with the government to maintain the prevailing peace and stability and the development momentum of the nation, he added. In this regard, the minister pointed out that the people are to correctly review the past bitter events that happened from 1948 to 1988 and take lessons from them, and they have to observe the peace and stability and development of the nation during the period from 1988 to date. The minister said that it is important to make concerted efforts with awareness for prevalence of peace and stability of the nation and for bringing the present development momentum to the future.

The commander presented ceiling tiles, newspapers and books for the library, the minister books for the library and exercise books for students of Ohnchaw Village Basic Education High School, the Chairman of Mandalay District PDC books for the library, wellwisher U Than Tun and family of Ohnchaw Village one 21-inch colour TV worth K 130,000, Aungthabye oil mill family one DVD worth K 85,000, U Hnin Wai and family one ceiling fan worth K 50,000, U Zin Min Thant and family one cupboard worth K 140,000, wellwishers K 500,000, U Candima of Nage Monastery books worth K 50,000, U Thaung Htay Lin and family books worth K 20,000, U Tin Win and family book worth K 50,000 and U Chit Oo and family books worth K 50,000.

Officials accepted cash and kind donations. A townselder spoke words of thanks.

After the ceremony, the commander and the minister cordially greeted the local people.—*MNA*

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan makes speech in meeting with division/district/township-level departmental officials, members of social organizations and local people from 50 villages of 21 village-tracts in Ohnchaw Village of Patheingyi Township.—MNA

UNHCR says 67,000 Somalis displaced by deadly clashes

NAIROBI, 27 May—The UN refugee agency said on Tuesday the number of Somalis fleeing the latest escalation of fighting in and around Mogadishu has surpassed 67,000, adding that worsening security has also hampered aid delivery to the capital.

In a statement, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said most of the uprooted are heading to makeshift camps along the Afgooye corridor, southwest of Mogadishu. These sites are already hosting an estimated 400,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Deadly clashes between the fledgling government and the opposition Al-Shabaab and Hisbul Islam (Islamic Party) groups erupted in several northwest areas of Mogadishu on 8 May. "Those displaced who are unable to make the 30-kilometre journey have sought refuge in southwestern parts of Mogadishu that have not yet been overrun by fighting," UNHCR said in the statement.

The UN agency added that the deteriorating security situation has sharply reduced deliveries of desperately needed humanitarian aid to the displaced in and around the capital.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Ford president and CEO Alan Mulally, left, walks around a new hybrid Ford Fusion with Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer on the Microsoft campus after Mulally delivered the car to Ballmer Tuesday, on 26 May, 2009, in Redmond, Wash. The vehicle is equipped with the one millionth SYNC system, which is powered by Microsoft Auto software.—INTERNET

New York spellers watch as they participate in Round II of the 2009 National Spelling Bee in Washington,on 27 May, 2009. Seated from L-R are: Sriram Jagadeesh Hathwar, 9, of Big Flats; Thomas William James Steele, 14, of Gloversville; Michalina Kulesza, 12, of Kingston; Emma A. Kolinsky, 13, of Middletown; Talia Weisberg, 14, of New York; and Lea K. Davis, 13, of Oxford.—INTERNET

Indonesia's mily assures neutrality in presidential election

JAKARTA, 27 May—Indonesia's military assured neutrality in the presidential election scheduled on 8 July, a high rank military official said here on Tuesday.

"All Indonesian military troops are prohibited to come out. They will be ordered to stay in barracks two days before the election," the private news portal detikcom quoted the Indonesian Military Chief General Djoko Santoso as saying.

Djoko also said that the military's neutrality was proven in the legislative elections on 9 April. According to Indonesia's law, active military troops and police are prohibited from taking part in the election. They are either have the rights to vote or to be elected in the elections.

Three former top military chiefs will contest in different camps in the upcoming presidential election. They are the incumbent President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Prabowo Subianto as the vice president candidate of Indonesia Democratic Party of Struggle's (PDI-P) Megawati Soekarnoputri and Wiranto, the vice president candidate of Jusuf Kalla from the Golkar Party. Loyalists of those three former military chiefs in the military are feared to take their utmost to win their patron commanders in the presidential election.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Kidnapped teacher freed in S Philippines

ZAMBOANGA (the Philippines), 27 May—Three state school teachers kidnapped by Filipino militants were released on Tuesday after spending four months in captive in the jungles of the southern Basilan Island, sources said.

The three were freed at around 12 o'clock Tuesday (0400 GMT) in Basilan, a local sources who declined to be named said.

Celso Loregat, mayor of Zamboanga City, told *Xinhua* over phone that there is no official confirmation as of now. The authorities are verifying the details of the release information and will make an announcement later Tuesday afternoon, he said.—*MNA/Xinhua*

Ivory coast rebels hand over power in North

BOUAKE (Ivory Coast), 27 May—Rebels controlling northern Ivory Coast since 2002 officially handed over to civilian administrators on Tuesday in a step aimed at restoring government authority across the world's biggest cocoa producer.

The West African country was divided by a brief civil war in 2002-03 and is due to hold a long-delayed presidential election on 29 November, though many Ivorians suspect the vote could be postponed again as all sides have profited from the status quo.

The rebel commanders of 10 northern zones handed over to local administrators appointed by President Laurent Gbagbo, who in 2007 reached a peace deal with the rebels that brought them into government in the former French colony.

"This completes the reunification of the territorial administration," Sidiki Konate, spokesman of the New Forces rebels, told the handover ceremony in the central city of Bouake, the rebels' stronghold.

Interior Minister Desire Tagro, who is close to Gbagbo, said the ceremony should not be seen as a victory or a defeat by any group in the country of over 21 million where ethnic divisions are deep.

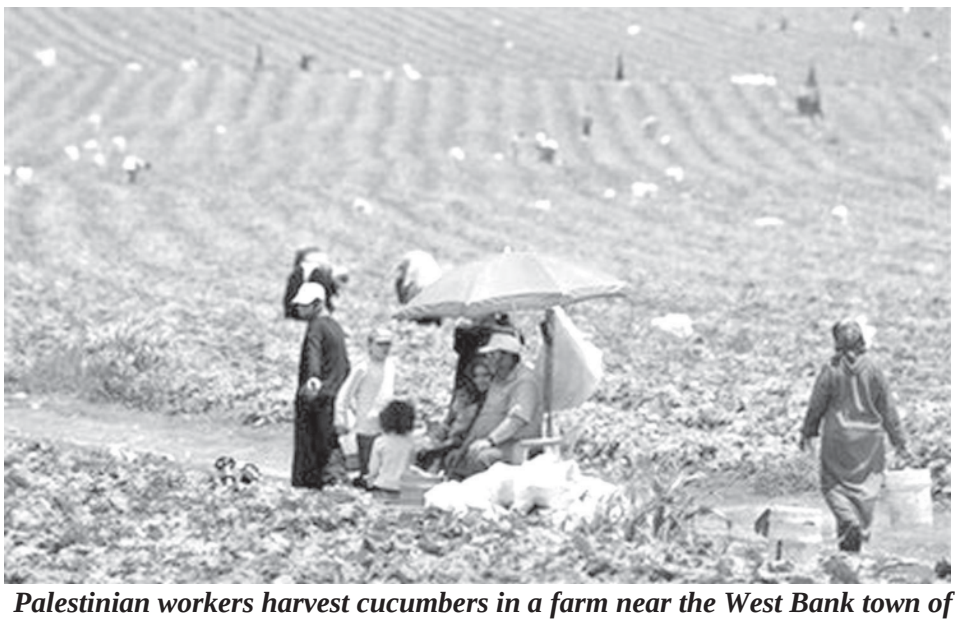
"We are seeing the full return of political and administrative normality in Ivory Coast," Tagro said.

MNA/Reuters

Indonesia gets $ 17m oil, gas investment contracts

JAKARTA, 27 May—Indonesia received investments contracts worth 17 million US dollars from oil and gas contractors following the settlement of the government's 2009 Work Programme and Budget in Indonesian oil business, a senior official said here.

"The value could be more or less. We are optimistic that they will implement their investment commitments since most of them are prominent large contractors,"said Deputy Director of Oil and Gas at the Upstream Oil and Gas Regulator (BP Migas) Abdul Mun'im, quoted by the *Bisnis Indonesia* daily on Tuesday.—*MNA/Xinhua*



Palestinian workers harvest cucumbers in a farm near the West Bank town of Jenin, Wednesday, on 27 May, 2009. Most of the cucumbers are later sold to Israeli factories where they are processed and are sold in various markets in Israeli and the West Bank.—INTERNET

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (289)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (289) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.5.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SINAR BANTEN VOY NO (050)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BANTEN VOY NO (050) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.5.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

TO LET (IN KYATS)

In the hub of Yangon, Ground Floor Room ($12\frac{1'}{2}$ x 50' x 16') with Spacious Loft, 2 Extra Western Toilets, Phone, 2Ac. Reasonable Terms. Contact-397139.

Help for poor countries at Paris climate talks

PARIS, 27 May—The world's biggest polluters made progress on a global deal to finance efforts to fight global warming and help poor countries cope with it, the French hosts of climate talks said on Tuesday.

However, the environment ministers and top climate officials from 17 nations gathered in Paris appeared to make little headway toward agreement on how deeply to cut their emissions of gases that contribute to climate change.

The top US negotiator on climate change, Todd Stern, defended the Obama administration's commitment to what he called a "seismic change" in the country's carbon emissions and attitude toward fighting global warming. Earlier Tuesday, France and Germany had said the United States wasn't going far enough in its emissions targets.

Despite such differences, French Environment Minister Jean-Louis Borloo said glimmers of progress emerged at the end of two days of closed-door talks.

The countries present moved forward "in an extremely significant way" in talks on how to pay for technology and new energy sources to help poor countries limit pollution and adapt to climate change, Borloo said. He said everyone came together behind a Mexican financing proposal that includes a formula to calculate who pays and how much.

Borloo said details were still being worked out. Negotiators have estimated helping poor countries cope with rising sea levels, harsher storms droughts and other global warming-related shifts would cost about $100 billion a year.

Internet

Four held after Luton nightclub shooting in Britain

LONDON, 27 May— Four people have been arrested on suspicion of attempted murder after a man was shot outside a Luton nightclub in the early hours of Monday.

Police said two 24-year-old men, a 21-year-old man and an 18-year-old woman are being held at Luton Police Station after the shooting at the Traffik nightclub at 2 am in the Cheapside area of the town.

A man believed to be in his 20s was taken to the Luton and Dunstable Hospital where he remains in a critical but stable condition.

Detectives of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Major Crime Unit have appealed for witnesses.

MNA/Reuters

Diabetics can lower heart attack risk

CAMBRIDGE, 27 May— A meta-analysis found people who have diabetes but maintain low-blood sugar levels are at less risk for heart attacks, researchers in Britain say.

Dr Kausik Ray of the University of Cambridge and colleagues said the meta-analysis pooled information from five large trials.

The study, published in The Lancet, determined there was a 17 percent reduction in heart attacks and a 15 percent reduction in coronary heart disease. The study also found a more modest trend toward reduction of strokes with intensive control of glucose levels compared with standard care.

The researchers, in contrast to smaller studies that suggested possible harm from better blood sugar control, found no adverse impact on the risk of death from any cause.

The five trials involved more than 33,000 individuals, including 1,497 heart attack cases, 2,318 cases of coronary heart disease and 1,227 strokes.—*Internet*

Border between Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan closed

ALMATY, 27 May—The border between Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan was closed on Tuesday at the request of Uzbekistan, a spokesman for Kyrgyzstan's border authorities said. The spokesman gave no reason for the closure of the border with Uzbekistan. But *Interfax* news agency quoted a Kyrgyz official as saying that a police station in Uzbekistan's border town of Khanabad was attacked by a group of unidentified people early Tuesday morning.

During the attack, the assailants used explosive devices, the official said, adding that Uzbekistan then closed two checkpoints between its Andizhan region and Kyrgyzstan's Osh region on Tuesday morning. Uzbek officials have yet to comment on the incident. The two countries share a border of 1,375 kilometres.

MNA/Xinhua

Int'l organizations urge more funding for yellow fever vaccine

GENEVA, 27 May—The global emergency stockpile of yellow fever vaccine for the world's most vulnerable populations in Africa is under threat because of the lack of further funding, the World Health Organization (WHO) and several other humanitarian organizations warned on Tuesday.

"The current stockpile is scheduled to run out in 2010 and there is no funding to cover campaigns once the stockpile is depleted," said a joint statement issued by the WHO, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Doctors without Borders and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Most children and adults in five of the 12 most vulnerable countries in Africa are now protected from contracting yellow fever thanks to recent vaccination campaigns, the organizations said. But without further funding millions of people will still be at risk of the disease, according to public health experts. The five African countries that have completed vaccination campaigns so far are Togo, Mali, Senegal, Burkina Faso and Cameroon, said the statement. But seven other countries still face a high risk of the disease, namely Benin, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Liberia, Guinea, Ghana, and Ivoey Coast.

"We have to finish the job we started or the good work that has been done will be lost," said Dr Edward Hoekstra, a UNICEF senior health specialist, in the statement.

"If the stockpile of yellow fever vaccine is allowed to run out, countries that have not yet been reached by immunization campaigns will be unfairly burdened with the disease," he said. According to Dr. William Perea, WHO coordinator for epidemic readiness and intervention, the yellow fever initiative is feeling the effects of the global financial crisis.

MNA/Xinhua

Cyclone victims inspect the damage to their houses at Patharpatima Island in the Sundarbans delta, about 100 km (62 miles) south from the eastern Indian city of Kolkata, on 26 May, 2009. —INTERNET

Protecting oceans vital in warming fight

WASHINGTON, 27 May—Governments seeking to stop global warming must give a higher priority to protecting marine ecosystems, scientists said on Sunday in Washington.

Meeting at the International Marine Conservation Congress, the scientists stressed that because the oceans act as a vital carbon sink absorbing much of the everincreasing supply of carbon emissions, maintaining their health is a prerequisite for battling climate change, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, a Swiss environmental group, said in a release.

"The world's governments must recognize the potential within the oceans to reduce carbon emissions," said Carl Gustaf Lundin, head of the IUCN's Global Marine Programme. "It's a travesty that marine issues aren't on the agenda of the UN Climate Change Summit in Copenhagen in December." Lundin said that he stressed during the Congress the importance of "marine protected areas" — areas where governments restrict fishing and other human activities — saying, "The role of MPAs in reducing the impact of overfishing and other stress factors on the marine environment cannot be overstated. A stronger network of MPAs would mean that oceans are in a better position to survive and thrive despite the impacts of global warming."—*Internet*

An iPod advertisement inside a metro station in downtown Paris in a 2006 photo.—INTERNET

Health officials says most cases of A/H1N1 flu unreported in US

HOUSTON, 27 May—The number of confirmed cases of A/H1N1 flu in the state of North Carolina is likely much greater than the 14 that have been reported in the state, according to Dr Jeffrey Engel, the state's public health director on Tuesday.

"They will definitely go unreported," Dr Jeffrey Engel said. "We feel that our current (testing) method probably catches about one in 10 to one in 20 that are really happening here."

Nationwide, there are 6,764 cases of A/H1N1 flu have shown up in 48 states, with 10 deaths in six states, according to figures released by the CDC on Monday.

At least 42 countries have confirmed cases of the disease, which has sickened 11,168 people and caused 86 deaths, the World Health Organization reports.

Dr Engel said not all suspected cases of A/H1N1 flu are tested because the volume would overwhelm the state lab.

The state is testing according to guidelines issued by the CDC, he added. "We do it by sampling. We don't do it by testing everybody," he explained—*Internet*

Kidney stones being seen in children

ANN ARBOR, 27 May—A US urologist reports seeing an increase in young children with kidney stones — something more often seen in middle-aged men.

Dr Gary Faerber of the University of Michigan Health System in Ann Arbor says modern diet and lifestyle are probably at fault.

"I am seeing more and more children who have kidney stones," Faerber says in a statement. "It's a real phenomenon."

Family history of kidney stones is a significant risk factor, but Faerber says consuming sugar-filled drinks and fast-food high in sodium may play a role. Sodium is a known risk factor in the formation of kidney stones, he says.

"The sedentary lifestyle we're starting to see in the younger age group and the pediatric group is also a risk factor because we know that obesity increases the risk of forming kidney stones," he adds.

Internet

Singapore confirms first case of Influenza A/H1N1

SINGAPORE, 27 May—A 22-year-old Singaporean woman was confirmed to be Singapore's first case of Influenza A/H1N1 on Wednesday.

According to TV broadcaster Channel NewsAsia, the patient was in New York from 14 to 24 May, and returned to Singapore from New York on SQ25 on 26 May at 6:30 am local time.

Singapore's Health Ministry (MOH) said it has initiated contact tracing of her close contacts. Passengers who had traveled in the same flight and were seated in rows 52 to 58 are urged to call the local hotline to check on their health condition. They will be quarantined and provided with antiviral prophylaxis.—*Internet*

A/H1N1 flu death toll rises to 85 in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 27 May—The Mexican Health Ministry said on Tuesday that the influenza A/H1N1 flu death toll rose from 83 to 85 and the infected cases totaled 4,806 cases.

In a communique issues on Tuesday, the ministry said that it was "important to make clear that the death toll and the infection cases are not new," but those figures correspond to samples of confirmed cases that were being under research.

The ministry also said that the number of deaths for H1N1 flu virus corresponds to the 1.8 percent of the infected cases and that 12 of the cases died after 23 April.—*Internet*

Australia's confirmed A/H1N1 flu cases double in 24 hours

SYDNEY, 27 May—The number of Australians confirmed with A/H1N1 flu doubled in just 24 hours after hundreds of people were allowed to leave a cruise ship which had infected people on board.

Fears are growing that the virus is now out of control across Australia as the number of confirmed cases rose to 61 on Wednesday morning, doubling the number from Tuesday.

The New South Wales government was also caught up in the scare after its Tourism Minister Jodi McKay attended a ministerial meeting after flying in from the US on a plane carrying infected passengers.

The minister returned to Sydney from Los Angeles on Tuesday. Six passengers on the plane later tested positive for the new flu virus.—*Internet*

Study links female infection to vitamin D

PITTSBURGH, 27 May — Researchers at the University of Pittsburgh say they have linked a common female infection, bacterial vaginosis, to vitamin D deficiency.

The study found that black women are more likely to become infected because they are more likely to be deficient in vitamin D, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reported on Saturday.

Researchers tested 469 pregnant women for vitamin D levels. They found women with low levels of the vitamin were more likely to be infected.

About one-third of women in their childbearing years are infected with bacterial vaginosis, said Lisa Bodnar, an assistant professor of epidemiology, gynecology and obstetrics. The disease is associated with premature delivery.

For many women, bacterial vaginosis is just a nuisance. But the infection can make women more susceptible to sexually transmitted diseases.

Vitamin D deficiency is more common in blacks because they absorb less from sunlight and are more likely to be lactose intolerant.

Internet

Mumbai doctors fear rise in leprosy cases

MUMBAI, 27 May—Smita breaks down as she remembers the day she learned she had leprosy. "I felt really bad," she says, wiping away tears. "I didn't know what it was."

The 42-year-old housewife was diag-nosed with the disease in 2007 after discovering lesions on her face, knees and bottom. Then she began to lose sensation in her hands, making it difficult to eat, wash and cook. Smita, who asked that her real name not be used because of the stigma having leprosy still carries, lives in Mumbai, India's cosmo-politan financial and entertainment capital. She has no idea how she caught an ancient disease that was officially declared eliminated here in 2004 and nationwide in 2005.

But she is not an isolated case. According to public health officials, there were more than 1,145 new cases of leprosy in Mumbai from February 2008 to March 2009, an increase from the 1,070 in 2007-08.

Most cases were in sprawling slum areas with poor or non-existent sanitation and where more than half of Mumbai lives, in particular migrant workers from north Indian states where the disease is not yet under control.

Leprosy prevalence in Mumbai is currently 0.53 cases per 10,000, well below the World Health Organisation (WHO) benchmark of one case per 10,000 people for the disease to be considered eliminated.—*Internet*

SPORTS

Moyes wins recordbreaking third manager of the year award

LONDON, 27 May—Everton manager David Moyes received the perfect boost ahead of Saturday's FA Cup final with Chelsea when he was awarded the League Managers' Association's (LMA) manager of the Year award on Tuesday for a record third time.

The 46-year-old Scotsman has worked wonders on a relatively limited budget to take Everton not only to the FA Cup final but also to fifth place in the Premier League and a place in the new Europa Cup next season.

"Since joining Everton, David has not only transformed the club's fortunes, he has also created a huge fan base, including many of his fellow managers," said LMA chairman Howard Wilkinson.

"With only modest financial backing he has shown what can be achieved through discipline, dedication and an innate ability to get the best out of every player."

Moyes, who made his name as a manager at Preston North End before leaving for Everton in 2002, won the award previously in 2003 and 2005.—*Internet*

Everton manager David Moyes

Mirza rues injury woes after French Open exit

PARIS, 27 May—India's Sania Mirza blamed a lack of match practice after being eliminated in the first round of the French Open here on Tuesday.

The world number 95 is trying to regain form after an injury-plagued 2008, but looked short of sharpness in a rain-hit 6-4, 7-6 (7/3) defeat to Kazakhstan's Galina Voskoboeva.

"It was tough conditions to play in, going on the court and then going off, and it was windy," said Mirza.

"I haven't had too much practice as well because I injured my wrist again after (the) Madrid (Open) and had to head back home and get that treated. And it's not one of my favourite surfaces to play on!

"But I take nothing away from her. She played really well, she served really well and I think that was the difference."

Mirza held to love in an emphatic opening service game before the heavens opened, forcing the players off with the score 1-1.—*Internet*

Dad's off limits as Dokic wins on French Open return

PARIS, 27 May—Australia's Jelena Dokic continued her professional and personal rehabilitation on Tuesday when she clinched her first win at the French Open for six years, but insisted her controversial father was off limits.

Australia's Jelena Dokic

The 26-year-old, whose career and life were in a tailspin until a magical run to the Australian Open quarter-finals this year, battled back from a set down to defeat Slovenia's Karolina Sprem 3-6, 6-1, 6-2.

It was her first victory at Roland Garros since she reached the second round in 2003. She played and lost the first round in the following year.

Tuesday's win was even more remarkable, given the latest turmoil involving her estranged father Damir, who has been charged with threatening the Australian ambassador to Serbia and illegal possession of firearms.—*Internet*

Jol confirmed as Ajax coach

AMSTERDAM, 27 May—Martin Jol was handed the task of reviving the fortunes of ailing Dutch giants Ajax on Tuesday when he was named their new coach according to a statement on the side's website. The 53-year-old Dutchman had guided Bundesliga side Hamburg to fifth place - and to semi-finals in both the German and UEFA Cups - in the championship and was under contract to them till June 2010.

***Hamburg's Dutch coach Martin Jol pictured during a Bundesliga match in March 2009.*—INTERNET**

However, the former Spurs manager is to sign a three-and-a-half-year contract with the four time European champions, whose previous coach Marco van Basten resigned at the beginning of the month after a disappointing campaign which saw them finish third and fail to gain a Champions League place for next season.

Ajax, who won the last of their record 29 league titles in 2004, have handed Jol full powers in not only the head coaching role but also in terms of transfers and the youth programme.

"Ajax have offered me a fantastic opportunity to develop a long term plan and also handed me responsibility in all fields," said Jol.

"I am delighted to come home after several years abroad."

Rik van den Boog, the club's managing director, said that Ajax had pulled off a remarkable coup in persuading Jol to take the post.—*Internet*

Austrian starlet's dream move to Chelsea on hold

Austrian football star Marko Arnautovic

THE HAGUE, 27 May—Rising Austrian football star Marko Arnautovic's proposed move to English Premiership giants Chelsea was in doubt on Tuesday because of a foot injury according to press reports.

The 20-year-old international - scorer of 14 goals for Twente this season - underwent a medical in Vienna on Tuesday and according to the reports failed to satisfy the Chelsea doctor over seeing it.

The medical revealed that four-times capped Arnautovic has such a serious foot injury it could see him sidelined for between four to six months.

On Monday Dutch press reports had announced that according to sources close to the player he had agreed to sign a contract with Chelsea beating off competition from Italian champions Inter Milan.

Internet

Southgate is the man to take 'Boro back up, says chairman

MIDDLESBROUGH, 27 May—Gareth Southgate will remain as manager of Middlesbrough and try and guide them to an immediate return to the Premier League the club chairman Steve Gibson told the BBC on Tuesday.

The 38-year-old former England international has been in charge since June 2006 but having taken them to 13th in his first campaign he failed to keep them up this term as they joined fellow North east club Newcastle in being relegated.

However, Gibson, who has bankrolled the club for well over a decade insisted that Southgate - capped 57 times by England but who will probably be best remembered for failing to convert a penalty in the Euro '96 semi-final defeat to Germany - was the right man for the onerous task of lifting them out of the Championship.

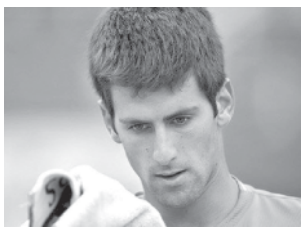
"Gareth has convinced me he knows what it takes to get us back up," Gibson told BBC Radio after meeting with Southgate.—*Internet*

Djokovic looks to mimic ironman Muster

PARIS, 27 May—Novak Djokovic may have mothballed his party trick of impersonating fellow professionals, but he'd love to mimic the success of ex-French Open winner Thomas Muster, the one-time ironman of tennis.

The fourth seeded Serbian recently hired Gebhard Phil-Gritsch, who helped Austria's Muster capture the 1995 Roland Garros title - a victory based on an iron will and tip-top physical power.

"My new fitness coach is analysing all the small things, which are really important in the fitness work of the tennis player," said 22-year-old Djokovic.



Novak Djokovic

"He's been in tennis for a long time. He's worked with Muster. So it's quite important to have somebody who is familiar with the way it works in tennis, and I'm happy.—*Internet*

Serena struggles, Djokovic eases through in Paris tennis

***US player Serena Williams celebrates her victory over Czech player Klara Zakopalova at the end of their French Open tennis first round match at Roland Garros in Paris. Williams won 6-3, 6-7, 6-4.*—INTERNET**

PARIS, 27 May—World number two Serena Williams endured an almighty struggle to win her first claycourt match in 12 months on Tuesday as Roland Garros's brief flirtation with summer came to a chilly end.

Williams, the second seed and 2002 champion, spurned eight match points en route to a 6-3, 6-7 (5/7), 6-4 victory over Czech Klara Zakopalova.

It was the American's first claycourt win since the second round here last year and avenged her shock defeat to the Czech girl in the first round in Marbella in April. But what looked like a routine win, when she was a set and 5-4 up, turned into a battle of attrition before Williams, the holder of 10 Grand Slam titles, rescued the situation.—*Internet*

Kamala, a newborn female White Bengal Tiger is fed milk using a baby bottle at the Olemse zoo in Olmen May 22, The cub, born on 12 May, 2009.

INTERNET

9,100 Tamil Tiger rebels surrender to Govt

VAVUNIYA, 27 May—The military in Sri Lanka said on Tuesday that 9,100 Tamil Tiger rebels have surrendered themselves to the government and most of them have been sent to rehabilitation centres after proper legal procedure.

Military spokesman Udaya Nanayakkara told a group of foreign journalists visiting the Internal Displaced Person (IDP) camps in Vavuniya that the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) members fled to government controlled areas among civilians and surrendered themselves to the authorities. "Most of the former LTTE members have been sent to different rehabilitation centres after being produced to the court," Nanayakkara said.—*MNA/Xinhua*

MRTV-3
Programme Schedule
(28.5.2009) (Thursday)

Transmissions	Times
Local	- (09:00am ~ 10:00am) MST
Europe	- (15:30pm ~ 23:30pm) MST
North America	- (23:30pm ~ 07:30am) MST

Local Transmission

* Signature Tune
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
* Turtle! Our Heritage
* Arrogant Mosaic
* Ayeyawady First Defile
* Music Icon "Violinist U Tin Yee"
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission

* Signature Tune
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
* King Alaung Mintaya's Palace Sites
* Hand-made Bags
* Unforgettable Trip to Ahka Village
* Sand Sculptures on Beautious Beach Chaung Tha
* Nay Pyi Taw International Airport to emerge soon
* Kengtung with much Attraction
* Biological Expedition to Hponkan Razi Region(II) (Upper Shangaung-Awadam)
* Myanmar Modern Song
* Turtle! Our Heritage
* Arrogant Mosaic
* Ayeyawady First Defile
* Music Icon "Violinist U Tin Yee"
* New Transport facilities Designed for Regional Development
* Beauty of Gall Wood displayed
* Biological Expedition to Hponkan Razi Region(III) (Awadam Village-Ziadam Village)
* Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

TV Myanmar

Thursday, 28 May
View on today

7:00 am
1. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၏ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am
2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am
3. Morning news

7:40 am
4. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

7:50 am
5. Nice & Sweet Song

8:05 am
6. မြန်မာ့ကျောက်မျက်ရတနာများဖြင့် ဖော်ကျူးတဲ့မြန်မာ့ ကျောက်မျက်ရတနာပြတိုက်

8:15 am
7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:30 am
8. International News

8:40 am
9. Dance Variety

8:50 am
10. Musical Programme

4:00 pm
1. Martial song

4:10 pm
2. Dance of National Races

4:20 pm
3. နိုင်ငံ့စီးပွားလေးထား ကျေးလက်ထုတ်ကုန်များ

4:30 pm
4. Cute Little Dancers

4:40 pm
5. Musical Programme

4:55 pm
6. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ တတိယနှစ် (ပထဝီဝင်အထူးပြု) (ပထဝီဝင်)

5:10 pm
7. Songs for uphold National Spirit

5:15 pm
8. "သတင်းကောင်း" (သျှားညို၊ ဆုပန်ထွာ၊ ပွင့်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ညိုမင်းလွင်)

5:30 pm
9. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ

5:40 pm
10. Musical Programme

5:50 pm
11. ကြယ်ပွင့်များရဲ့ရင်ခုန်သံ

6:00 pm
12. Evening news

6:30 pm
13. Weather report

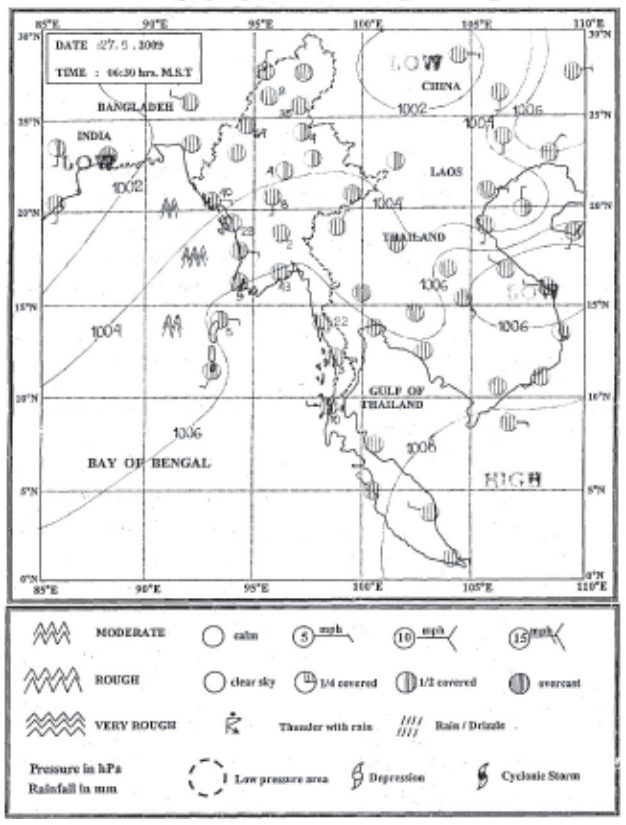
6:35 pm
14. အနုပညာကြေးမုံတစ်ချပ်ကို ခံစားကြည့်ခြင်း (အလင်္ကာကျော်စွာမြို့မငြိမ်း၏ သီချင်းများ)

6:50 pm
15. ထူးဆန်းထွေလာများကို သိပ္ပံဖြင့်ချဉ်းကပ်ခြင်း

7:10 pm
16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "နားခိုရာရင်ခွင်" (အပိုင်း-၁၃)

8:00 pm
17. News
18. International news
19. Weather report
20. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မေတ္တာလမ်းဆုံ" (အပိုင်း-၂၆)

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Wednesday, 27 May, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, Southwest monsoon has advanced into the Northern Myanmar areas. Rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Shan and Chin States, lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Kayin State, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfall in Magway Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Thandwe (2.84)inches, Homalin (2.52) inches, Bago (2.48) inches, Ye (2.17) inches, Pyapon (2.04) inches, Minbu (1.66) inches and Magway (1.05) inches.

Maximum temperature on 26-5-2009 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 27-5-2009 was 69°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 27-5-2009 was 97%. Total sunshine hours on 26-5-2009 was (2.7) hours approx.

Rainfall on 27-5-2009 was (1.03) inches at Mingaladon, (1.81) inches at Kaba-Aye and (1.73) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (11.46) inches at Mingaladon, (15.71) inches at Kaba-Aye and (19.09) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (14:20) hours MST on 26-5-2009.

Bay inference: Monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 28th May 2009: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Shan, Kayah and Mon States and Taninthayi Division and fairly widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon in the Andaman Sea.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 28-5-2009: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 28-5-2009: One or two rain of thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 28-5-2009: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

R 489 Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 22/30 Strand Road at 43rd Street, Yangon. Cable Newlight, PO Box No. 43, Telephones: Editors 392308, Manager 392226, Circulation 392304, Advertisement 392223, Accounts 392224, Administration 392225, Production/Press 392369

Ministry of Foreign Affairs releases Press Statement in response to Press Statement on Myanmar issued by UNSC

NAY PYI TAW, 27 May—*The Ministry of Foreign Affairs today released a Press Statement in response to the Press Statement on Myanmar issued by the United Nations Security Council on 22 May.*

The Press Statement released by the MOFA is as follows:—

The United Nations Security Council issued a Press Statement on Myanmar on 22 May 2009.

The Government of the Union of Myanmar, in order to ensure stability of the State and in the interest of the people, has to issue restriction order and place Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at her house under restriction in accordance with the Law to Safeguard the State against the Dangers of Those Desiring to Cause Subversive Acts.

Whilst the restriction order was in effect, an intruder Mr. John William Yettaw, who is a United States citizen, entered the house of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in May, 2009, and was permitted to stay in the house for two days, communicated, given food and provided shelter by her. Therefore, legal action in accordance with law has been taken unavoidably.

Such action will not have any political impact and, thus, the action in accordance with law will be considered and carried out as the task relating to the rule of law.

The Government, in accordance with the aspirations of the people, has been implementing the Seven-Step Road Map towards a peaceful, modern and developed democratic Nation. The National Convention, first step of the Road Map, was successfully convened five times between 2004 and 2007, and it adopted basic principles and detailed basic principles for the State Constitution. More than 1,000 representatives from all strata of life, political parties, national groups and the organizations which have returned to the legal fold attended the National Convention. Thus, the genuine dialogue with the participation of all national groups had already taken place in the National Convention.

The State Constitution Drafting Commission carried out the drafting of the Constitution, third step of the Seven-Step Road Map, enshrining the basic principles and detailed basic principles adopted by the National Convention. The referendum, fourth step of the Road Map, was held in May 2008 whereby a new Constitution was overwhelmingly approved by 92.48 per cent of the voters.

In order to enable them to take part in the building of a new democratic State, 9,002 prisoners were released when the Government granted amnesty for the eighth time on 23 September 2008 in accordance with Article 401 (1) of the Penal Code, and 6,313 prisoners for the ninth time on 20 February 2009.

Myanmar firmly accepts the affirmation by the members of the Security Council of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Myanmar and that the future of Myanmar lies in the hands of all of her people. The Government will, therefore, hold multi-party general elections, fifth step of the Road Map, in 2010, and the Government is determined to continue hand-in-hand with the people to implementing the Seven-Step Road Map in accordance with the aspirations of the people.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Yuzana Integrated Farm Project geared up for earning foreign exchange through cultivation of tapioca

Article: Tin Htwe (MNA); Photos: Kyaw Swe Moe (IPRD)

Since my first trip to Yuzana all-round agriculture camp, I had been eager to write an article about it.

One month later, I had an opportunity to observe the project area of the camp from the helicopter.

On the first trip, I was much pleased with the sight of tapioca plantations from the moving car. On the second visit, I had the wonderful bird's eye view of the plantations.

My second trip was coincided with the cornerstone laying ceremony of the tapioca starch factory at its place of the Yuzana Integrated Farming Project, and I could forese e the brighter future of the project.

In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, Yuzana Co Ltd is implementing the Yuzana Integrated Farming Project on 235,400 vacant lands and 14,600 acres of forest land, totalling 250,000 acres near Bangauk Village sharing borders with Phakant and Tanai Townships on Myitkyina-Tanai Road in Kachin State.

On the plots of the project, tapioca as the main crop is being grown together with sugarcane, maize, soya bean, paddy and other crops.

In this regard, priority is being given to cultivation of industrial crops that are suitable for the region with a view to ensuring sufficiency of fuel, edible oil and sugar in the region and increasing the income of foreign exchange.

In the livestock breeding sector, fish, cows and pigs are being bred for ensuring local food sufficiency and for earning foreign exchange.

(See page 9)

Tapioca plants thriving in Yuzana Integrated Farm Project.